

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 14-17 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and have been recast as claims 18-41. The added claims are supported throughout the specification as filed, including e.g., page 6, lines 6-8 of the specification and the original claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendment presents no new issues or new matter and places this case in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is requested.

I. Telephonic Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to the undersigned during the telephonic interview on November 23, 2010, in which the pending claims and the art of record was discussed. Applicants agreed to submit amended claims for the Examiner's consideration; however, no other agreement was reached.

II. Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the Information Disclosure Statement previously filed on May 21, 2010. For the Examiner's convenience, a duplicate copy of the cited reference and Form PTO/SB/08a listing the same are also submitted herewith.

III. The Rejection of Claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Picón et al., *Biotechnology Letters* 19(4) pp. 345-348 (1997) (hereinafter "Picón") for reasons of record. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 12 has been canceled herewith, thereby obviating the rejection.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the claims overcome this rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

IV. The Rejection of Claims 1-11 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 102 and/or 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-11 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as allegedly anticipated by, or, in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. 103 as obvious over Picón. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-11 and 14 have been recast as claims 18-41 herewith. As such, the amended claims are directed to a process for producing cheese comprising adding to cheese milk, or a

fraction of cheese milk, a purified phospholipase which is a phospholipase C *in an amount effective to decrease the oiling-off effect in cheese and/or to increase cheese yield*; and producing cheese from the cheese milk and to a process for producing cheese comprising adding to cheese milk, or a fraction of cheese milk, a purified phospholipase selected from the group consisting of *phospholipase D, and a combination of phospholipase C and phospholipase D*; and producing cheese from the cheese milk.

Picón discloses the co-encapsulation of proteinase and phospholipase C in stimulated release liposomes and the addition thereof to ewe's milk in a method for manufacturing Manchego cheese. Picón, Abstract. However, Picón does not teach or suggest a process for producing cheese comprising the use of a purified phospholipase which is a phospholipase C *in an amount effective to decrease the oiling-off effect in cheese and/or to increase cheese yield*. Nor does Picón teach or suggest a process for producing cheese comprising the use of a purified phospholipase which is a *phospholipase D or a combination of a phospholipase C and phospholipase D*. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the amended claims are novel and unobvious.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the claims overcome this rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 and/or 103. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

V. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance. Early action to that end is respectfully requested. The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this amendment or application.

All required fees were charged to Novozymes North America, Inc.'s Deposit Account No. 50-1701 at the time of electronic filing. The USPTO is authorized to charge this Deposit Account should any additional fees be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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